

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-13 (Canceled).

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): An image composition method comprising:

- inputting a first moving image;
- inputting answer object regions for respective frames of the first moving image;
- extracting a plurality of answer object images from the respective frames of the first moving image using the answer object regions;
- generating an answer strobe composite image in which the plurality of answer object images are superposed;
- determining an extraction parameter which depends on the answer strobe composite image;
- inputting a second moving image;
- extracting object images from respective frames of the second moving image using the extraction parameter; and
- generating a strobe composite image in which the object images extracted from the respective frames of the second moving image are superposed, and
- wherein the determining the extraction parameter comprises:
  - (a) detecting temporary object regions from the respective frames of the first moving image using a temporary extraction parameter;
  - (b) extracting a plurality of temporary object images from the respective frames of the first moving image using the temporary object regions;

(c) generating a temporary strobe composite image in which the plurality of temporary object images are superposed;

(d) calculating an error between the answer strobe composite image and the temporary strobe composite image; and

repeating (a) to (d) while changing the temporary extraction parameter, and determining the temporary extraction parameter which minimizes the error as the extraction parameter.

Claims 15-28 (Canceled).

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): An image composition apparatus, comprising:

a unit configured to input a first moving image and a second moving image;

a unit configured to input answer object regions for respective frames of the first moving image;

a unit configured to extract a plurality of answer object images from the respective frames of the first moving image using the answer object regions;

a unit configured to generate an answer strobe composite image in which the plurality of answer object images are superposed;

a unit configured to determine an extraction parameter which depends on the answer strobe composite image;

a unit configured to extract object regions from respective frames of the second moving image using the extraction parameter; and

a unit configured to generate a strobe composite image in which the object images extracted from the respective frames of the second moving image are superposed, and

wherein the extraction parameter is determined by:

- (a) detecting temporary object regions from the respective frames of the first moving image using a temporary extraction parameter;
  - (b) extracting a plurality of temporary object images from the respective frames of the first moving image using the temporary object regions;
  - (c) generating a temporary strobe composite image in which the plurality of temporary object images are superposed;
  - (d) calculating an error between the answer strobe composite image and the temporary strobe composite image; and
- repeating (a) to (d) while changing the temporary extraction parameter, and determining the temporary extraction parameter which minimizes the error as the extraction parameter.

Claims 30-37 (Canceled).

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): A program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means, the computer readable program code means in the computer program product comprising:

program code means for causing a computer to input a first moving image and a second moving image;

program code means for causing a computer to input answer object regions for respective frames of the first moving image;

program code means for causing a computer to extract a plurality of answer object images from the respective frames of the first moving image using the answer object regions;

program code means for causing a computer to generate an answer strobe composite image in which the plurality of answer object images are superposed;

(a) detecting temporary object regions from the respective frames of the first moving image using a temporary extraction parameter;

(b) extracting a plurality of temporary object images from the respective frames of the first moving image using the temporary object regions;

(c) generating a temporary strobe composite image in which the plurality of temporary object images are superposed;

(d) calculating an error between the answer strobe composite image and the temporary strobe composite image; and

repeating (a) to (d) while changing the temporary extraction parameter, and determining the temporary extraction parameter which minimizes the error as the extraction parameter.

Claims 39-45 (Canceled).